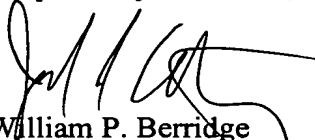


REMARKS

Claims 13-24 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1-12 are canceled and Claims 13-24 are added.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 27, 2000

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